

Docket No. 2001-0048-01  
USPN 09/300,137

said contact sheet, and  
wherein said first and second electro-active elements and said conductors are arranged such that said device forms a generally sigmoidal shape upon activation of said first and second electro-active elements;  
wherein said first and second electro-active elements are bonded to said electroded sheet with a structural polymer to form a sealed card, and  
wherein said structural polymer and said two sheets of stiff strong polymer provide a bending stiffness sufficient to prevent deformation of the card to a breaking point and mechanical stiffness such that shear forces are efficiently coupled from the card to a workpiece.

#### REMARKS

Claim 55 remains in the application. All other claims have been cancelled. The one remaining claim has been amended to narrowly claim the present invention and to clearly distinguish the present invention as now claimed from the referenced prior art. None of the prior art discloses or suggest bonding of the electro-active elements to an electroded sheet of strong stiff polymer with a structural polymer to form a sealed card stiff and strong enough to prevent breaking and to provide efficient coupling of these forces to a workpiece in order to create a generally sigmoidal shape upon activation of the electro-active elements. The new limitations are clearly described in the summary of the invention and the abstract.

Applicants respectfully requests a timely Notice of Allowance in this case.

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Marked Up Copy

Applicants have attached marked up copy of earlier versions of the claims showing changes made of the claims as now amended.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Docket No. 2001-0048-01  
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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**  
**For USSN 09/300,137**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

55. (Amended) An actuator device comprising:

~~at least~~ a first and a second electro-active element ~~each in plate form and~~  
~~mounted between two sheets of a stiff strong polymer, at least one of~~  
~~said sheets, defining a contact sheet, having a thickness of between one~~  
~~half mil and two mil and being clad with an electrode material on both~~  
~~sides; and~~

~~at least~~ a first and a second conductor,

wherein said first conductor is in direct electrical contact with said first  
electro-active element through said contact sheet; and second  
conductor is in direct electrical contact with said second electro-active  
element through said contact sheet; and

wherein said first and second electro-active elements and said conductors are  
arranged such that said device forms a generally sigmoidal shape upon  
activation of said first and second electro-active elements;

wherein ~~said first and second conductors are at least in part a part of an~~  
~~electroded sheet and~~ said first and second electro-active elements are  
bonded to said electroded sheet with a structural polymer to form a  
sealed card, ~~and~~

wherein said structural polymer ~~and said two sheets of stiff strong polymer~~  
provides a bending stiffness sufficient to prevent deformation of the  
card to a breaking point and mechanical stiffness such that shear forces  
are efficiently coupled from the card to a workpiece.

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\* \* \* TRANSMISSION RESULT REPORT ( MAR.24.2003 4:33PM ) \* \* \*

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# : BATCH  
M : MEMORY  
S : STANDARD

C : CONFIDENTIAL  
L : SEND LATER  
D : DETAIL

S : TRANSFER  
E : FORWARDING  
T : FINE

P : POLLING  
E : ECH  
V : REDUCTION